1	IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT		
2	FOR THE DISTRICT OF HAWAII		
3	INTER CHARGO OF AMERICA	) CRIMINAL NO. 17-00582JMS-WRP	
4	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,	)	
5	Plaintiff,	) Honolulu, Hawaii ) October 22, 2019	
6	VS.	)	
7	LOUIS M. KEALOHA (2),	) HEARING ON SENTENCING ) AGREEMENT AND APPELLATE ) WAIVER	
8	Defendant.		
9	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,	, ) ) CRIMINAL NO. 18-00068JMS-WRP	
	Plaintiff,	)	
10	VS.	) CHANGE OF PLEA	
11	LOUIS M. KEALOHA (2),	)	
12	Defendant.	) )	
13		_ )	
14			
15	TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS		
16	BEFORE THE HONORABLE J. MICHAEL SEABRIGHT		
17	CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE		
18	APPEARANCES:		
19		ernment: MICHAEL G. WHEAT, ESQ.  Special Attorney to the	
20	Attorney General United States Attorney's Office		
21	880 Front Street, Room 6293 San Diego, California 92101		
22			
23	For Defendant RUSTAM A. BARBEE, ESQ.		
	Louis M. Kealoha: Atto	RUSTAM A. BARBEE, ESQ. Attorney at Law 1188 Bishop Street, Suite 2606 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813	
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25			

Cynthia Fazio, RMR, CRR, CRC Official Court United States District Court Reporter: 300 Ala Moana Blvd., C-270 Honolulu, Hawaii 96850 Proceedings recorded by machine shorthand, transcript produced with computer-aided transcription (CAT).

- 1 TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2019 2:32 P.M.
- THE COURTROOM MANAGER: Criminal Number
- 3 17-00582JMS-WRP, Criminal Number 18-00068JMS-WRP-2, United
- 4 States of America versus Louis M. Kealoha.
- 5 This case has been called for hearing on sentencing
- 6 agreement and appellate waiver for Criminal 17-00582 and a
- 7 change of plea hearing for Criminal 18-00068.
- 8 Counsel, please make your appearance for the record.
- 9 MR. WHEAT: Good afternoon, Your Honor. Michael Wheat
- 10 for the United States, joined by Laura Salazar at the table.
- 11 THE COURT: Yes.
- MR. BARBEE: Good afternoon, Your Honor. Rustam
- 13 Barbee appearing with Louis M. Kealoha. He's present in court.
- 14 THE COURT: All right. Yes, good afternoon to both of
- 15 you.
- 16 All right. So, Mr. Kealoha, I understand that you
- 17 wish to enter a plea of guilty to Count 4 in Criminal Number
- 18 18-00068, what we've been calling the second case or the bank
- 19 fraud case, pursuant to a plea agreement, and at the same time
- 20 to enter into a sentencing agreement and appellate waiver in
- 21 17-582, the case that we just had a trial in; is that accurate,
- 22 sir?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 24 THE COURT: Okay. I'm going to have you approach up
- 25 here then if you will with Mr. Barbee.

- 1 All right, sir, before I can accept your guilty plea
- 2 there are a number of questions I need to ask you to make
- 3 certain that your plea is knowing, valid and voluntary. So, if
- 4 you don't understand a question at any time please just ask me
- 5 to repeat or rephrase the question, I'll be happy to do that.
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- 7 THE COURT: And if you want to consult with Mr. Barbee
- 8 in private at any point during these proceedings, all you have
- 9 to do is ask me and I'll be happy to let you do so. Do you
- 10 understand all that?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 12 THE COURT: All right. Can we swear the defendant,
- 13 please?
- 14 (The Defendant was sworn to answer truthfully.)
- 15 THE COURT: Do you understand you are now under oath
- 16 and if you answer any of my questions falsely, those false
- 17 answers could be used against you in a separate prosecution for
- 18 perjury or making a false statement?
- 19 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 20 THE COURT: What is your full legal name?
- 21 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Louis Mahina Kealoha.
- 22 THE COURT: And how old are you, sir?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: 59.
- 24 THE COURT: How far did you go in school?
- 25 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: I have a doctorate of

- 1 education.
- THE COURT: All right. And you read and speak
- 3 English?
- 4 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 5 THE COURT: Okay. What is your most recent
- 6 employment?
- 7 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: The Honolulu Police Department.
- 8 THE COURT: Now, have you taken any illegal drugs in
- 9 the last 48 hours?
- 10 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: No, sir.
- 11 THE COURT: Have you had any alcohol in the last 48
- 12 hours?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: No, Your Honor.
- 14 THE COURT: Have you taken any -- are you prescribed
- any prescription drugs right now?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: No, sir.
- 17 THE COURT: Have you taken any prescription drugs in
- 18 the last 48 hours?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: No, Your Honor.
- 20 THE COURT: So you're clean and sober right now?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- THE COURT: And you're thinking clearly?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 24 THE COURT: Have you ever been treated for mental
- 25 illness or addiction to drug or alcohol?

- 1 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: No, sir.
- 2 THE COURT: Can you tell me in your own words what you
- 3 came to court to do today.
- 4 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: To plead quilty to the bank
- 5 fraud, Count 4.
- 6 THE COURT: All right. Now, have you had enough time
- 7 to talk to Mr. Barbee about the bank fraud case, the facts of
- 8 the case, and your decision to plead quilty as well as the
- 9 agreement set forth in the sentencing agreement and appellate
- 10 waiver in the mailbox trial?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, Your Honor.
- 12 THE COURT: Are you fully satisfied with Mr. Barbee's
- 13 representation of you in this matter?
- 14 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, Your Honor.
- 15 THE COURT: Has anyone made any promise or assurance
- 16 to you of any kind in an effort to get you to plead quilty
- 17 other than what is in the plea agreement and the sentencing
- 18 agreement and appellate waiver?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: No, Your Honor.
- 20 THE COURT: Has anyone threatened you or threatened
- 21 anyone else or forced you in any way to plead guilty?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: No, Your Honor.
- 23 THE COURT: Are you pleading quilty of your own free
- 24 will because you are guilty?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, Your Honor.

- 1 THE COURT: Mr. Barbee, do you have any reason to
- 2 doubt your client's competence to enter a valid and voluntary
- 3 plea?
- 4 MR. BARBEE: No, Your Honor, I don't.
- 5 THE COURT: So, you have reviewed the third
- 6 superseding indictment in 18-68, Mr. Kealoha?
- 7 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, Your Honor.
- 8 THE COURT: All right. And in brief, can you go over
- 9 Count 4 of that, Mr. Wheat?
- MR. WHEAT: Count 4 as to what it is?
- 11 THE COURT: The first superseding indictment, right?
- MR. WHEAT: Yes.
- 13 THE COURT: I'm sorry, the third superseding
- 14 indictment.
- 15 MR. WHEAT: Third superseding indictment. Count 4
- 16 involves a bank fraud allegation involving Mr. Kealoha and
- 17 Ms. Kealoha entering into a scheme to defraud the bank by
- 18 filing false documents relating to rental income to inflate
- 19 their assets to obtain a loan for \$150,000 from the Hawaii
- 20 Central Federal Credit Union.
- 21 THE COURT: All right. So, Mr. Kealoha, did you read
- 22 that charge?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 24 THE COURT: And you went over it with Mr. Barbee?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.

- 1 THE COURT: You understand it?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- 3 THE COURT: Do you have any questions for me or
- 4 Mr. Barbee regarding that charge?
- 5 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: No.
- 6 THE COURT: Okay. So the maximum penalties,
- 7 Mr. Wheat?
- 8 MR. WHEAT: Your Honor, the maximum potential
- 9 penalties for that crime are up to 30 years in custody, a
- 10 \$1 million fine -- one second, Your Honor.
- 11 \$100 special assessment. Up to five years of
- 12 supervised release. An order of restitution and forfeiture of
- 13 property to the United States.
- 14 THE COURT: All right. Do you agree with that,
- 15 Mr. Barbee?
- MR. BARBEE: Yes, Your Honor.
- 17 THE COURT: All right. Okay. So now we have this
- 18 plea agreement in addition to the sentencing agreement and
- 19 appellate waiver. So I'm going to start with this sentencing
- 20 agreement and appellate waiver, Mr. Kealoha.
- 21 As I understand the nature of this plea, you have to
- 22 sort of agree to be bound to both of these agreements for
- 23 either one of them to be operative; do you understand that?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- THE COURT: In other words, they're sort of married

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1 together, right?
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- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- 3 THE COURT: Okay. So under the sentencing agreement,
- 4 you agree and stipulate that the facts set forth in the
- 5 presentence report in this case, which is ECF docket number
- 6 888, are true and accurate and should be considered as relevant
- 7 conduct for your sentencing; do you understand that?
- 8 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 9 THE COURT: That means you're admitting to the facts
- 10 set forth in that report; do you understand that?
- 11 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- 12 THE COURT: And you're admitting those as true?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 14 THE COURT: All right. Now, there are a number of
- 15 agreements as to sentencing. You were here when I went over
- 16 this with Mrs. Kealoha, but let me make sure you understand
- 17 this. Okay. If you'll go to Page 4 of the sentencing
- 18 agreement, and the same information should be set forth in the
- 19 plea agreement on Page 11 as well. So for the -- you're
- 20 agreeing to have both the bank fraud and the mailbox cases
- 21 consolidated for sentencing, you understand that?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- THE COURT: Okay. And I'm agreeing to that, you
- 24 understand that?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.

- 1 THE COURT: Okay. So as far as the first case,
- 2 17-582, both parties are agreeing under the United States
- 3 sentencing guidelines the base offense level is 19; do you
- 4 understand that?
- 5 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- 6 THE COURT: Then the government apparently is going to
- 7 be seeking upward adjustments of one for plus six levels, one
- 8 for plus two and another for plus two.
- 9 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- 10 THE COURT: You are free to challenge those upward
- 11 adjustments under the guidelines; do you understand that?
- 12 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- 13 THE COURT: For the bank fraud case, you and the
- 14 government are in total agreement as to what those guidelines
- 15 would look like.
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- 17 THE COURT: Which would be a base offense level seven,
- 18 plus two under 2B1.1(b)(2)(A), and plus two for 2B1.1(b)(17).
- 19 Is that (b) (17), Mr. --
- 20 MR. WHEAT: I think it should be (b) (7).
- 21 THE COURT: (b) (7)? Okay. Mr. Barbee, do you know
- 22 offhand?
- MR. BARBEE: No.
- THE COURT: I can look --
- MR. BARBEE: I didn't bring my book.

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1 THE COURT: I can look. All right. We can make that
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- 2 change. I think it should be (b) (7) also. 2B1.1(b) (7)?
- 3 MR. WHEAT: So it should be B1 -- let's see what it is
- 4 here -- plus two should be --
- 5 THE COURT: Oh, no, it is 17.
- 6 MR. WHEAT: 17.
- 7 THE COURT: Okay. It's just there's a bracket instead
- 8 of a --
- 9 MR. WHEAT: Yeah, it should be a bracket.
- 10 THE COURT: -- parenthetical. Okay. All right.
- 11 That's fine. I think it's clear enough then.
- MR. WHEAT: Yup.
- 13 THE COURT: All right. So you agree there's an
- 14 agreement -- you understand there's an agreement as to those
- 15 quidelines?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 17 THE COURT: Okay. All right. So you also understand
- 18 the government's agreeing that however I determine the
- 19 quidelines apply here, and that's still an unknown, you
- 20 understand that, right?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 22 THE COURT: Whatever I determine, it will recommend a
- 23 sentence within that advisory guideline range; do you
- 24 understand that?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.

- 1 THE COURT: Okay. And you will not be able to
- 2 recommend any downward adjustments or departures, but you can
- 3 request a lower sentence based on the 3553(a) factors; do you
- 4 understand that?
- 5 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 6 THE COURT: Okay.
- 7 MR. BARBEE: Yes, Your Honor, it's also our
- 8 understanding with the final presentence report, there's two
- 9 additional enhancements that I think we're reserving our right
- 10 to object to.
- 11 THE COURT: Which ones are those?
- MR. BARBEE: I believe Probation gave him a
- 13 three-level role in the offense instead of what the --
- 14 THE COURT: Okay. Okay.
- 15 MR. BARBEE: And then there was an additional one for
- 16 abuse of public trust.
- 17 THE COURT: Okay. All right. So yes, essentially
- 18 you're agreeing to the bank fraud, agreeing to a base 19 on the
- 19 mailbox, but you're free to otherwise object.
- MR. BARBEE: Yes.
- 21 THE COURT: Is that a fair statement?
- MR. BARBEE: Yes, Your Honor.
- THE COURT: Okay. As far as the offense levels?
- 24 Okay. All right.
- 25 Also, the parties estimate the total amount of

- 1 restitution for the mailbox case is \$289,714.96; do you
- 2 understand that?
- 3 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- 4 THE COURT: Now, the government's going to be asking
- 5 that you be responsible for 25 percent of that, such that you
- 6 would be responsible to Gerard Puana in the amount of 11,565.25
- 7 and Florence Puana in the amount of 60,863.49; do you
- 8 understand that?
- 9 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 10 THE COURT: Again, you understand none of this is
- 11 binding on me?
- 12 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- 13 THE COURT: Okay. All right. Now, do you also
- 14 understand both the plea agreement and the sentencing agreement
- 15 and appellate waiver for both the mailbox case and then the
- 16 bank fraud case, you are waiving or giving up to the full
- 17 extent of the law your right to appeal to the Ninth Circuit
- 18 Court of Appeals or to bring any sort of what we call
- 19 collateral challenge to the conviction or sentence; do you
- 20 understand that?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 22 THE COURT: Now, I know you're not a lawyer, so I'm
- 23 going to explain this in a little more detail. Okay. Normally
- 24 after a conviction and sentence here in federal court there are
- 25 two ways by which you can challenge a conviction and/or

- 1 sentence that you thought was unlawful or unconstitutional.
- 2 The first is to appeal to the Ninth Circuit Court of
- 3 Appeals. And that court sits to determine if errors are made
- 4 here at the trial court level.
- 5 The second way, we call it a collateral challenge.
- 6 That's sort of a fancy way of just saying you come to me and
- 7 asking for some relief. Okay. Typically you do it through a
- 8 2255 motion, but there are other ways to do it as well. This
- 9 morning I talked about a coram nobis or other habeas rights.
- 10 Through this plea agreement you're waiving your right to bring
- 11 any sort of appeal or collateral challenge to either the trial
- 12 that just concluded or to your plea to the bank fraud count,
- 13 with one exception; do you understand that?
- 14 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 15 THE COURT: The exception is you can bring a claim of
- 16 ineffective assistance of counsel; do you understand that?
- 17 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- 18 THE COURT: Otherwise you're giving up all your rights
- 19 to appeal or bring any other collateral challenge; do you
- 20 understand?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- THE COURT: Now, do you also understand the government
- 23 may appeal the sentence that I impose in this case?
- 24 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- THE COURT: You understand that?

- 1 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- THE COURT: Finally, do you understand that if you
- 3 breach one of the conditions either in the -- in the sentencing
- 4 agreement and appellate waiver or the plea agreement, any
- 5 statements made by you under oath at the hearing here today and
- 6 the factual stipulation in Paragraph 2 of this agreement, and
- 7 any evidence derived from such statements would be admissible
- 8 against you in any prosecution; do you understand that?
- 9 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 10 THE COURT: And you would be waiving or giving up your
- 11 rights whether under the Constitution or the laws of the United
- 12 States or Rule 11(f) of the Rules of Criminal Procedure or Rule
- 13 410 of the Federal Rules of Evidence to argue otherwise; do you
- 14 understand that?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- 16 THE COURT: Okay. And do you understand that when you
- 17 go to Paragraph 2 that takes you back to the agreement that all
- 18 of the facts set forth in the presentence report are true and
- 19 accurate; do you understand that?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- 21 THE COURT: All right. Do you have any questions for
- 22 me about the sentencing agreement and appellate waiver?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: No, Your Honor.
- 24 THE COURT: Mr. Barbee, Mr. Wheat, is there anything
- 25 else in that agreement you want me to cover?

- 1 MR. WHEAT: No, Your Honor.
- 2 MR. BARBEE: No, Your Honor.
- 3 THE COURT: All right. So let's go back to the plea
- 4 agreement then. Okay. We went over the maximum penalties,
- 5 correct?
- 6 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- 7 THE COURT: And you understand those?
- 8 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 9 THE COURT: Okay. So as I understand this plea
- 10 agreement, you're agreeing to plead guilty to Count 4 and the
- 11 government will move after sentencing to dismiss the remaining
- 12 charges against you; do you understand that?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 14 THE COURT: You're also agreeing that the statements
- of facts set forth in Paragraph 7 of the plea agreement are
- 16 true and accurate; do you understand that?
- 17 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 18 THE COURT: Now, just like with the sentencing
- 19 agreement and appellate waiver, you are waiving or giving up
- 20 your right to bring any sort of appeal or collateral challenge
- 21 other than the claim of ineffective assistance; do you
- 22 understand that?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 24 THE COURT: Now, if I look at Paragraph 21, it deals
- 25 with forfeiture, it says you agree to forfeit a money judgment

- 1 in the amount of 228,746.79, then proceeds of 63,476.97 and a
- 2 Rolex watch. Subparagraph (3), the Hawaii Kai property is
- 3 really moot, is not relevant now, correct, Mr. Wheat?
- 4 MR. WHEAT: That is correct, Your Honor.
- 5 THE COURT: Because that's -- the home had sold and
- 6 the proceeds from that that remain are reflected in Sub 2.
- 7 MR. WHEAT: Correct.
- 8 THE COURT: Okay. Now, from what I understood with
- 9 the last plea, it's unclear if the government will seek the
- 10 full 228 plus change and the 63, but they could do so; do you
- 11 understand that?
- 12 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 13 THE COURT: And also the Rolex watch will be
- 14 forfeited; do you understand that?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 16 THE COURT: And you also through this plea agreement
- 17 agree to cooperate in the entire forfeiture process, provide a
- 18 signature where needed, agree to a preliminary order of
- 19 forfeiture, essentially there are a lot of steps that have to
- 20 be taken and you agree to cooperate in the execution of all of
- 21 that; do you understand that?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- THE COURT: Do you have any questions regarding any of
- 24 that?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: No, sir.

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1 THE COURT: As far as restitution, Page 19,
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- 2 Paragraph 22(c) says: The parties estimate the amount of
- 3 restitution will be 165.269.82 to persons other than the victim
- 4 of Count 4, to the -- for the offenses to which he has pled
- 5 guilty. So what does that include, Mr. Wheat, exactly?
- 6 MR. WHEAT: That includes the money to Ransen Taito
- 7 and Ariana Taito.
- 8 THE COURT: Okay. I see. So that's -- that's the
- 9 full amount?
- 10 MR. WHEAT: Correct.
- 11 THE COURT: Okay. I see. So on Ransen Taito it's
- 12 81,384.91. For Ariana it would be 83,884.91. And is it your
- 13 view that would be joint and several then, Mr. Wheat?
- MR. WHEAT: Correct.
- 15 THE COURT: All right. So the government's view on
- 16 this is that would be joint and several with Mrs. Kealoha. In
- other words, you don't pay it twice, but each of you would be
- 18 responsible for the payment of it; do you understand that?
- 19 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- 20 THE COURT: Okay. Do you have any questions regarding
- 21 that?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: No.
- 23 (Counsel and client conferring.)
- THE COURT: You okay?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.

- 1 THE COURT: Okay. So, also set forth in the plea
- 2 agreement, like the sentencing agreement, appellate waiver, if
- 3 you breach this plea agreement you understand that any
- 4 statements you made today, the factual basis statement in
- 5 Paragraph 7 of the plea agreement and evidence derived from the
- 6 statements may be used against you in any future proceeding and
- 7 you waive your right to argue otherwise; do you understand
- 8 that?
- 9 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 10 THE COURT: Okay. You also agree to fully cooperate
- 11 with the United States; is that right?
- 12 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 13 THE COURT: Okay. I want to make sure you understand
- 14 the nature of that. I'm not going to get into what that
- 15 entails, I'm just going to ask you some questions about the
- 16 nature of that.
- 17 Under United States sentencing quidelines
- 18 Section 5K1.1, before sentencing the government can move,
- 19 asking for a reduced sentence based on your cooperation. Or if
- 20 it comes after sentencing, it would be pursuant to Rule 35(b)
- 21 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure.
- 22 With Mrs. Kealoha I talked about 3553(e). That
- 23 doesn't apply to you because you don't have any mandatory
- 24 minimum sentencing. Do you understand that?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.

- 1 THE COURT: Because the aggravated identity theft
- 2 applies only to her, do you understand?
- 3 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 4 THE COURT: Okay. So what I want to make sure you
- 5 understand is, that the decision as to whether to file a
- 6 motion, whether under 5K1.1 of the guidelines or
- 7 Section 35(b) -- I'm sorry, Rule 35(b) of the Rules of Criminal
- 8 Procedure, the decision whether to file such a motion rests
- 9 entirely with the United States Attorney's Office for the
- 10 Southern District of California; do you understand that?
- 11 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes. Yes, sir.
- 12 THE COURT: You cannot force them to file that motion
- 13 nor can you have me force them to file that motion. It rests
- 14 entirely with them in making that decision; do you understand
- 15 that?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 17 THE COURT: Do you understand this agreement does not
- 18 require them to make such a motion?
- 19 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 20 THE COURT: You understand that in the event they do
- 21 file a motion, and whether I grant the motion is within my
- 22 discretion. If I do grant it, how far down I go is also in my
- 23 discretion; do you understand that?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 25 THE COURT: Do you also understand that if such a

- 1 motion is not filed for any reason, which again, you can't
- 2 control and I can't control, right, as far as making them do
- 3 it, you won't be able to withdraw from the plea agreement; do
- 4 you understand that?
- 5 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 6 THE COURT: Okay. Do you have any questions about
- 7 that?
- 8 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: No, sir.
- 9 THE COURT: Are there any other terms of this plea
- 10 agreement I didn't go over, counsel, that you believe I should?
- MR. WHEAT: No, Your Honor.
- MR. BARBEE: No, Your Honor.
- 13 THE COURT: So you have entered into this written plea
- 14 agreement with the United States, correct?
- 15 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 16 THE COURT: Did you read that entire agreement?
- 17 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 18 THE COURT: Did you then sign it?
- 19 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- 20 THE COURT: Well, let me back up. After you read it,
- 21 did you discuss it with Mr. Barbee?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 23 THE COURT: And did you then sign it?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 25 THE COURT: Okay. So at the time you signed it, did

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1 you understand all the terms of the plea agreement?
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- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 3 THE COURT: Meaning you were able to discuss it and
- 4 get all answers from Mr. Barbee --
- 5 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 6 THE COURT: -- to your questions?
- 7 Okay. And is that your signature on the last page of
- 8 the plea agreement?
- 9 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 10 THE COURT: Is it the same for the sentencing
- 11 agreement, is that your signature?
- 12 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 13 THE COURT: Likewise, you signed that after reading it
- 14 and discussing it with Mr. Barbee?
- 15 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 16 THE COURT: And understanding it?
- 17 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 18 THE COURT: Does the plea agreement and the sentencing
- 19 agreement and appellate waiver reflect the entirety of the
- 20 agreement -- of the agreements you have with the United States
- 21 in this matter?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- THE COURT: There are no side agreements?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: No, sir.
- THE COURT: No other agreements at all?

- 1 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: No, sir.
- THE COURT: No oral agreements, anything like that?
- 3 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: No, sir.
- 4 THE COURT: Do you understand I am not required to
- 5 accept these agreements but can reject them after reviewing a
- 6 presentence report?
- 7 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 8 THE COURT: Now, I covered this this morning a lot
- 9 because there are a lot of agreements in both the sentencing
- 10 agreement and appellate waiver and the plea agreement. There
- 11 are a number of stipulations. And the stipulations are binding
- 12 on you and are binding on the United States, the two parties,
- 13 you and the United States have agreed on a lot of matters, and
- 14 you will be bound by that, you can't back off that at
- 15 sentencing.
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 17 THE COURT: But I want to make sure you understand I
- 18 am not bound by that, but I in my discretion could reject a
- 19 stipulation --
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 21 THE COURT: -- between the parties, you understand
- 22 that?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 24 THE COURT: All right. Now, I want to go over some
- 25 important rights that you give up by entering a plea of guilty

- 1 here today.
- 2 Do you understand under the Constitution and laws of
- 3 the United States, you have a right to persist in a plea of not
- 4 guilty as to the bank fraud case, 17-582 -- I'm sorry, as to
- 5 the bank fraud case, 18-68, you have a right to persist in a
- 6 plea of not guilty and are entitled to a trial on those charges
- 7 against you?
- 8 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 9 THE COURT: Now, you waived earlier your right to a
- 10 jury trial on that.
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 12 THE COURT: So I'm going to talk about this as if I
- was going to try the case. Okay?
- 14 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Okay, sir.
- 15 THE COURT: All right. Do you understand at trial you
- 16 would be presumed innocent and the government would have the
- 17 burden to present evidence to prove your guilt beyond a
- 18 reasonable doubt, this means at no time would you have the
- 19 burden to prove that you are not quilty; do you understand
- 20 that?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 22 THE COURT: To be found guilty as to each individual
- 23 charge, I would have to make a finding of guilt beyond a
- 24 reasonable doubt as to each essential element; do you
- 25 understand that?

- 1 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 2 THE COURT: And if for some reason it went to trial by
- 3 jury, a jury of 12 impartial citizens would have to make that
- 4 same finding; do you understand that?
- 5 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 6 THE COURT: Okay. Do you understand that if you wish
- 7 to go to trial, Mr. Barbee would stay with you throughout that
- 8 trial process free of charge?
- 9 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 10 THE COURT: Do you understand that at a trial you
- 11 would have the right to see and hear all the government
- 12 witnesses, and have them questioned or what we call
- 13 cross-examined by your attorney?
- 14 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 15 THE COURT: You could object to evidence offered by
- 16 the government and you could offer evidence on your own behalf
- and you could force or compel witnesses to appear in court to
- 18 testify using the court's subpoena power; do you understand
- 19 that?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 21 THE COURT: Now, if you went to trial in the bank
- 22 fraud case, after the government rests, in the defense case you
- 23 would have a decision to make, and that is whether to testify
- 24 or not to testify. And you would have an absolute right to
- 25 testify and you would have an absolute constitutional right not

- 1 to testify. But the decision whether to testify or not to
- 2 testify is a decision that you would have to make. Presumably
- 3 Mr. Barbee would give you his best advice, but at the end of
- 4 the day, just like the decision to plead guilty is yours and
- 5 not Mr. Barbee's, the decision if you went to trial whether to
- 6 testify would be your decision and not Mr. Barbee's. Do you
- 7 understand that?
- 8 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 9 THE COURT: And if you elected or chose to testify,
- 10 you would get on the witness stand and testify, and I would
- 11 tell the jury to gauge or judge your believability using the
- 12 same standards as they apply to all other witnesses; do you
- 13 understand that?
- 14 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- THE COURT: And if you chose not to testify, the jury
- 16 could not hold that fact against you because I would tell the
- jury as a matter of law that they could draw no inference or
- 18 suggestion of guilt because you did not testify. Do you
- 19 understand all that?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 21 THE COURT: All right. Do you understand that by
- 22 entering a plea of guilty, if I accept your plea, there will be
- 23 no trial and you will have waived or given up your right to a
- 24 trial as well as all these other rights we just discussed?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.

- 1 THE COURT: Do you also understand you have to give up
- 2 your right to remain silent as to Count 4 of the third
- 3 superseding indictment in 18-68 because I will ask you
- 4 questions of what you did that makes you guilty?
- 5 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 6 THE COURT: Do you have any questions for me or
- 7 Mr. Barbee regarding these rights?
- 8 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: No, sir.
- 9 THE COURT: Knowing these rights do you still wish to
- 10 go forward with your plea of guilty?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 12 THE COURT: You are a U.S. citizen, correct?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- 14 THE COURT: So this is a felony offense and that means
- 15 if you are convicted and if I adjudge you guilty, you may be
- 16 deprived of valuable civil rights, that includes the right to
- 17 vote, the right to hold public office, the right to serve on a
- 18 jury and the right to possess any type of firearm or
- 19 ammunition; do you understand that?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 21 THE COURT: You aren't currently charged or serving
- 22 any sort of criminal sentence in any other court; that's
- 23 correct?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 25 THE COURT: Okay. All right. Let's talk about

- 1 sentencing a little bit. The United States law does set forth
- 2 these detailed sentencing guidelines that I must consider at
- 3 the time I impose sentence. These guidelines are advisory only
- 4 and in addition to them I must consider other sentencing
- 5 factors set forth in the law at 18 U.S.C. Section 3553(a). So
- 6 have you and Mr. Barbee discussed the sentencing guidelines and
- 7 these other sentencing factors and how they may apply in your
- 8 case?
- 9 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 10 THE COURT: Do you understand that you will not know
- 11 what the final guideline calculation is until the day of
- 12 sentencing because the way the system works is, you will file
- 13 objections -- first of all, let me back up.
- 14 A new report will be prepared because the report
- 15 that's been prepared already only deals with the bank -- I'm
- 16 sorry, the mailbox case, not the bank fraud case. So a
- 17 consolidated report will be prepared.
- In the interim I said we're going to have this hearing
- 19 to make some -- some decisions that cut across all four
- 20 defendants from the first trial. But there will be individual
- 21 issues that will apply to your case. And only on the day of
- 22 sentencing would I rule on any objections to the report and
- 23 then announce what the actual guidelines are; do you understand
- 24 that?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.

- 1 THE COURT: Do you understand that after I determine
- 2 the guidelines, I will consider the guidelines and the other
- 3 sentencing factors, and I may impose a sentence below the
- 4 guideline range, within the guideline range, or above the
- 5 quideline range; do you understand that?
- 6 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 7 THE COURT: Do you understand if the sentence is worse
- 8 or more severe than you had hoped or expected to receive or
- 9 worse or more severe than called for by the guidelines, you
- 10 will not be able to withdraw from your plea of guilty; do you
- 11 understand that?
- 12 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 13 THE COURT: In other words, there's no buyer's
- 14 remorse. You get that?
- 15 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- 16 THE COURT: All right. Now, you may have had
- 17 discussions with Mr. Barbee and maybe others as to the type of
- 18 sentence you may receive. As I think I said this morning,
- 19 there's been certain press reports as to what the sentence may
- 20 look like, but I want to make sure you understand nothing
- 21 Mr. Barbee has told you or anyone else has told you or what
- 22 anyone may be reporting is binding on me in any way, but I can
- 23 sentence you up to the maximum permitted by law; do you
- 24 understand that?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.

- 1 THE COURT: Has anyone made any promise to you of any
- 2 sort as to what your sentence will be?
- 3 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: No, sir.
- 4 THE COURT: Do you understand there is no limitation
- 5 on the information that I may consider at the time of
- 6 sentencing concerning your background, character and conduct,
- 7 provided the information is sufficiently reliable?
- 8 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 9 THE COURT: Do you understand that if you are
- 10 sentenced to prison, a term of supervised release will follow,
- 11 and if you violate a condition of supervised release you can be
- 12 sent back to prison?
- 13 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 14 THE COURT: Do you understand there is no parole in
- 15 the federal system? There is a good time credit that you may
- 16 be entitled to, but there is no parole; do you understand that?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- THE COURT: And we've already gone over restitution
- 19 and forfeiture.
- Is there anything else on the restitution or
- 21 forfeiture, Mr. Wheat?
- MR. WHEAT: No, Your Honor.
- 23 THE COURT: Okay. All right. So, Mr. Wheat, can you
- 24 go over the elements of bank fraud?
- MR. WHEAT: Certainly, Your Honor. The elements for

- 1 bank fraud are defendant knowingly carried out a scheme or plan
- 2 to obtain money or property from a financial institution by
- 3 making false statements or promises.
- 4 Second, the defendant knew the statements or promises
- 5 were false.
- Third, the statements or promises were material, that
- 7 is, they had a natural tendency to influence or were capable of
- 8 influencing a financial institution to part with money or
- 9 property.
- 10 Four, defendant acted with the intent to defraud and
- 11 the financial institution was federally insured.
- 12 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Barbee, let me start with
- 13 you and ask you if you agree.
- 14 MR. BARBEE: Yes, I do agree, Your Honor.
- 15 THE COURT: And turn to you, Mr. Kealoha, do you
- 16 understand?
- 17 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 18 THE COURT: Okay. I'm now going to ask Mr. Wheat to
- 19 provide an overview of sort of the summary -- or summary of the
- 20 evidence he believes he can present if the case went to trial.
- 21 I want you to listen -- as to Count 4. I want you to listen
- 22 carefully because when he's done I'm going to ask you if you
- 23 agree or disagree in whole or in part with what he stated here
- 24 in court.
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.

- 1 MR. WHEAT: Your Honor, there's a more detailed
- 2 factual basis set forth at Pages 4 through 6 in Paragraph 7 of
- 3 the plea agreement. But specifically as to Count 4, if this
- 4 matter were to go to trial, the United States would be able to
- 5 prove beyond a reasonable doubt that during June of 2012
- 6 defendant and co-defendant Katherine Kealoha applied for a loan
- 7 with the Hawaii Central Federal Credit Union, a second mortgage
- 8 loan in the amount of \$150,000 on their then-residence 1018
- 9 Kealaolu Avenue.
- 10 And in doing so they obtained these funds by false
- 11 pretense. Specifically, that in June of 2012 Katherine Kealoha
- 12 submitted a forged Hawaii residential lease agreement in the
- 13 name of Minh-Hung Bobby Nguyen and Maile Nguyen to give the
- 14 false impression that defendant Louis Kealoha and Katherine
- 15 Kealoha received rental income from these two individuals each
- 16 month.
- 17 On or about July of 2012 Louis Kealoha and his
- 18 co-defendant Katherine Kealoha falsely certified in a Form 1003
- 19 loan application that they had -- they received over \$2,700 per
- 20 month in rental income.
- 21 Based upon these material false representations and
- 22 promises, the credit union granted Louis Kealoha and Katherine
- 23 Kealoha's mortgage application in the amount of \$150,000.
- 24 Since this loan was ultimately paid in full, there's
- 25 no loss from that loan.

- 1 Hawaii Central Federal Credit Union was a credit union
- 2 with accounts insured by the National Credit Union
- 3 Administration. And the defendant admits that the proceeds
- 4 from the sale of the residence at 7014 Niumalu Loop here in
- 5 Honolulu, namely \$63,476.97, constituted proceeds derived from
- 6 his criminal conduct in this case and therefore subject to
- 7 criminal forfeiture.
- 8 Basically, those proceeds from the sale of that house,
- 9 they used the proceeds from 1018 to buy Niumalu. So they're
- 10 proceeds from that account.
- 11 THE COURT: All right. So, Mr. Kealoha, did you
- 12 understand everything that Mr. Wheat just stated?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 14 THE COURT: Is everything he stated true and accurate?
- 15 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- 16 THE COURT: Okay. So why don't you tell me in your
- own words what you did that makes you guilty of Count 4.
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Your Honor, just basically I
- 19 knew my wife and I submitted a loan application claiming that
- 20 we received rental income from the pool house.
- THE COURT: Pool, P-O-O-L?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Pool.
- THE COURT: Swimming pool?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, yes. Swimming pool house
- 25 when we did not.

- 1 THE COURT: Okay. So let's back up a step. Okay. So
- 2 first of all, we're talking about a June 2012 application to
- 3 the Hawaii Central Federal Credit Union; is that right?
- 4 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- 5 THE COURT: And that was for a second mortgage in the
- 6 amount of \$150,000?
- 7 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- 8 THE COURT: Okay. The factual basis talks about a
- 9 Form 1003. Is that the credit union's standard form of some
- 10 sort?
- 11 MR. WHEAT: Credit union standard loan application
- 12 form and he would have executed under penalty of perjury.
- 13 THE COURT: Okay. All right. So, you understand that
- 14 Form 1003 that's being referenced to is the loan application
- 15 and you agree that you signed that loan application?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- 17 THE COURT: And in that loan application did you --
- 18 well, did you fill that out or did your wife fill out the
- 19 application?
- 20 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: She filled it out.
- 21 THE COURT: Okay. But you -- you signed it?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- 23 THE COURT: Okay. And you knew what was on the
- 24 application?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.

- 1 THE COURT: Okay. And was there something false
- 2 included in that application that you knew was false?
- 3 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- 4 THE COURT: And what was that?
- 5 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: The rental agreement from the
- 6 swimming pool house that we received funds when indeed -- for
- 7 renting the pool house when indeed we did not.
- 8 THE COURT: Okay. So -- and we heard in the first
- 9 trial, right, that Bobby Nguyen and his then-wife were living
- 10 in the pool house, right? Certain amount of testimony about
- 11 that.
- 12 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- 13 THE COURT: So they were in fact living in the pool
- 14 house; is that right?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- 16 THE COURT: But they were not paying rent?
- 17 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Can I speak with him for a
- 18 second?
- 19 THE COURT: Sure. Yes. If you want you can go
- 20 over here, may be a little more private.
- 21 (Pause in the proceedings.)
- THE COURT: Mr. Kealoha, if you need more time I'm
- 23 happy to leave the bench if you need it.
- 24 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: I'm good, sir. Thank you.
- THE COURT: Are you sure?

- 1 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- THE COURT: Okay. So can you answer my question?
- 3 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: The -- they weren't paying
- 4 rent, but every now and then they would give us money to pay
- 5 for utilities and things like that.
- 6 THE COURT: Okay. So they were sort of covering
- 7 costs?
- 8 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- 9 THE COURT: But you weren't receiving \$2700 a month?
- 10 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: No.
- 11 THE COURT: And you knew that?
- 12 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- 13 THE COURT: So did you know then that that loan
- 14 application Form 1003, did you know, first, that it stated that
- 15 you and your wife are receiving over 2700 per month in rental
- 16 income and, secondly, that that was a false claim?
- 17 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- 18 THE COURT: And you did that for the purpose of
- 19 increasing your chances of having your loan application
- 20 accepted?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- 22 THE COURT: In other words, you were trying to make
- 23 yourself look like you had sufficient income from that source
- 24 in addition to your regular income from HPD and so forth to
- 25 qualify for the loan; is that --

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1 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
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- 2 THE COURT: Is that a fair statement?
- 3 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- 4 THE COURT: And you knew that was false?
- 5 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- 6 THE COURT: Okay. And you don't dispute that the
- 7 credit union at the time had its accounts insured by the
- 8 National Credit Union Administration?
- 9 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- 10 THE COURT: Do you agree with that?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 12 THE COURT: Okay. Do you also agree then that you and
- 13 your wife engaged in this activity together?
- 14 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- 15 THE COURT: Is that right?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- 17 THE COURT: You knew the statement regarding the
- 18 rental income was false?
- 19 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- 20 THE COURT: You also agreed the statements were
- 21 material, that is they had a natural tendency to influence or
- 22 were capable of influencing the credit union to accept and
- 23 approve the loan application?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- 25 THE COURT: And do you also agree you acted with the

- 1 intent to defraud?
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- 3 THE COURT: And that the financial institution was
- 4 federally insured?
- 5 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- 6 THE COURT: All right. Are both counsel satisfied
- 7 with that factual basis?
- 8 MR. WHEAT: United States is satisfied, Your Honor.
- 9 Thank you.
- 10 MR. BARBEE: Yes, Your Honor.
- 11 THE COURT: All right. Is there anything else counsel
- 12 believes I should cover in either the plea agreement or the
- 13 sentencing agreement and appellate waiver?
- MR. BARBEE: Just on Page 13, Your Honor.
- MR. WHEAT: I was going to mention it.
- 16 THE COURT: Okay. Of what, Mr. Barbee?
- 17 MR. BARBEE: The correction that the Court made this
- 18 morning that it's Page 13 of the sentencing agreement, that the
- 19 last line should refer to factual stipulations in Paragraph 2.
- 20 THE COURT: Right.
- MR. BARBEE: And Mr. Kealoha and I both affixed our
- 22 initials.
- 23 THE COURT: Right.
- MR. WHEAT: As did I.
- 25 THE COURT: Okay. So that was just a typo, correct?

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1 MR. BARBEE: Yes.
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- 2 THE COURT: To be clear.
- 3 MR. BARBEE: Yes.
- 4 THE COURT: Right? Okay. So you understand, as we
- 5 talked about this earlier, I think, Mr. Kealoha, that the
- 6 factual stipulation in Paragraph 2 of the sentencing agreement
- 7 and appellate waiver is the one in which you agree that ECF
- 8 docket 888, the final presentence report, the facts in that
- 9 report are true and accurate, right?
- 10 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes.
- 11 THE COURT: Okay. You understand you're admitting
- 12 that and those facts can be used against you in any future
- 13 proceeding if you breach either the plea agreement or the
- 14 sentencing agreement and waiver?
- 15 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Yes, sir.
- 16 THE COURT: Okay. Anything else then or is that it?
- MR. WHEAT: No, Your Honor.
- MR. BARBEE: No, Your Honor.
- 19 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Kealoha, as to Count 4 of
- 20 the third superseding indictment in Criminal Number 18-00068,
- 21 how do you plead, quilty or not quilty?
- 22 DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Guilty.
- 23 THE COURT: It is the finding of the Court that the
- 24 defendant is competent to understand the proceedings and to
- 25 enter a knowing and informed plea. He understands the charge,

- 1 the plea is knowing and voluntary and not based on any force or
- 2 threat and is not based on any promise other than what is in
- 3 the plea agreement. And the same is true for the sentencing
- 4 agreement and appellate waiver.
- 5 The plea of guilty is supported by an independent
- 6 basis in fact containing each essential element of the offense.
- 7 Mr. Kealoha understands his rights associated with a trial, the
- 8 sentencing guidelines, and the other sentencing factors and the
- 9 maximum possible punishment. And as you have acknowledged that
- 10 you are in fact guilty, I accept your guilty plea and adjudge
- 11 you guilty of Count 4.
- I will file the plea agreement, but as I said, reserve
- 13 a determination on accepting it until that presentence report
- 14 has been prepared.
- 15 So what I've done is, I talked to my probation office
- 16 over the lunch hour about -- thinking and then getting in touch
- 17 with you folks about what issues could be resolved in that
- 18 initial sentencing hearing. Right? What is it that should be
- 19 the subject of that. And then I thought we'd get together on
- 20 October 31st when we're supposed to get together anyways. We
- 21 can use that day since people have that on their calendars, at
- 22 least you two do.
- MR. WHEAT: Yes.
- 24 THE COURT: And talk about that process then and the
- 25 timing. Okay. I'm hoping you folks will talk with each other

- 1 in the interim and try to reach an agreement as to what that
- 2 might look like. Okay. Obviously you should consult with
- 3 Probation on that as well.
- 4 MR. WHEAT: We'll have a telephonic hearing next week?
- 5 THE COURT: No, we'll just wait until the 31st.
- 6 MR. WHEAT: The 31st.
- 7 THE COURT: Is that next week?
- 8 MR. WHEAT: No, it's the following week. After next
- 9 week.
- 10 THE COURT: No, no, the 31st is next Thursday. So,
- 11 yeah, we'll meet next Thursday.
- MR. WHEAT: Okay. Next Thursday. You're right. Time
- 13 flies when you're having fun.
- 14 THE COURT: Right. And you can appear by telephone,
- 15 Mr. Wheat. But I do want parties to sort of think about this,
- 16 what -- I don't want individual issues necessarily resolved
- 17 when we all get together. It's issues that cut across all four
- 18 defendants to be resolved.
- 19 And then to identify what those are and then talk
- 20 about briefing for those. And that can be done before the
- 21 draft -- the new draft presentence report comes out, right? It
- 22 seems to me. Because everyone knows what those issues are
- 23 right now.
- The big one being, obviously, which guideline applies.
- 25 And Mr. Wheat's taken the position, you know, the 2H can still

- 1 apply and the specific offense characteristics for that, and
- 2 the defense is saying no to that. And that's really the big
- 3 one.
- 4 MR. BARBEE: Yeah, that goes with all four defendants,
- 5 I think.
- 6 THE COURT: That goes with all four defendants. And
- 7 then if 2J applies, but not 2H, what does restitution look
- 8 like. And that'll be another issue I suppose maybe that needs
- 9 to be addressed. But if there are other issues that cut across
- 10 all four and you can think of those and we can try to get those
- 11 resolved, if they're appropriate for resolution at that stage.
- MR. WHEAT: Understood.
- THE COURT: All right? Okay. Bail status?
- MR. BARBEE: Your Honor, we'd request that conditions
- of release presently in place remain in place.
- MR. WHEAT: No opposition.
- 17 THE COURT: All right. So I have talked to the
- 18 Pretrial Services officer. I've been told that you've been in
- 19 compliance with your conditions of release, Mr. Kealoha. So I
- 20 will permit you to stay out on bail under the current
- 21 conditions of release.
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: Thank you, sir.
- THE COURT: I just remind you as always, make sure you
- 24 do comply.
- DEFENDANT L. KEALOHA: I will comply.

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THE COURT: Okay. All right. Anything further then
 1
    to take up today?
 2
 3
              MR. WHEAT: No, Your Honor.
 4
              MR. BARBEE: No, Your Honor.
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              THE COURT: All right. Thank you all. Court's in
 6
     recess.
7
              (The proceedings concluded at 3:13 p.m.,
     October 22, 2019.)
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1	COURT REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE	
2		
3	I, CYNTHIA FAZIO, Official Court Reporter, United	
4	States District Court, District of Hawaii, do hereby certify	
5	that pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §753 the foregoing pages is a	
6	complete, true, and correct transcript of the stenographically	
7	reported proceedings held in the above-entitled matter and that	
8	the transcript page format is in conformance with the	
9	regulations of the Judicial Conference of the United States.	
10	DATED at Honolulu, Hawaii, December 12, 2019.	
11	DATED at Monorula, Mawall, December 12, 2019.	
12		
13	<u>/s/ Cynthia Fazio</u> CYNTHIA FAZIO, RMR, CRR, CRC	
14	CINITIA FAZIO, RMA, CRA, CRC	
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